

Eco-Community Dialogues Newsletter

Nancy Nelson, Editor

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Bon Voyage

The WHITE HOUSE announced that *Heather Zichal* is leaving her post. She was *President Obama's* top climate and energy advisor. (Source: October 8, 2013, MAIL TRIBUNE, "*Top Obama Environmental Issues Adviser to Leave*")

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler"—Einstein

It's hard for the lobbyists to rig the outcome of public votes. That unspoken warrant motivated the American people in JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON, to qualify **Measure 15-119** to ban *Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)* crops, and it is on the May, 2014 ballot.

Next the eyes of the world witnessed the discovery of unauthorized GMO wheat on an Eastern OREGON farm, prompting the EUROPEAN UNION's call for increased testing.

Then American people in BENTON COUNTY, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, and LANE COUNTY, OREGON, began to exercise their democratic right to bring their own local GMO-free initiatives to ballot for popular vote.

And Governor *Kitzhaber* signed a five-year ban on Canola crops in WILLAMETTE COUNTY, so there could be further research by OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY. GMO Canola cross-pollinates in a persistent and pervasive way in WILLAMETTE COUNTY, and the predator nature of GMO weed spread is a financial liability for the state to have to manage along roadsides, fields and streams.

Finally the U.S. SENATE removed the notorious "*Farmer (Monsanto) Protection Provision*" as a rider from the FEDERAL BUDGET BILL. Now OREGON's Governor *Kitzhaber* passed a law to prohibit city and county laws regulating *Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)* crops, with the exception that JACKSON COUNTY's registered voters still get to vote in May for Measure 15-119.

JACKSON COUNTY's Senator *Alan Bates* and Representative *Peter Buckley* both voted against the new law to prohibit local laws that regulate GMO crops because it bans local control of local land use. Representative *Peter Buckley* implicated, "*It's the wrong policy to do it at the state level. Three counties in CALIFORNIA have banned GMO's and they've thrived with organic farming.*"

Six environmental groups sent a letter to Governor *Kitzhaber* implicating that the new law compromises local environments. Undesirable environmental effects of the intense GMO farming systems need to be minimized.

OREGON's new law gives *the state* the authority to regulate GMO crops. If the American people want real food and do not want impure food, they *don't* have to have it. You might not have noticed that the new law would permit a *statewide* ban of GMO crops. The American people can vote into office elected officials who WILL get the GMO foods labeled, and who WILL be protective of organic food.

(Source: October 3, 2013 DAILY TIDINGS, "*Oregon Lawmakers Back Pension, Tax Changes*" by Jonathan Cooper The Associated Press; October 4, 2013 MAIL TRIBUNE, "*Lo Call Lawmakers See Session as Success*" by John Darling; October 9, "*Kitzhaber signs five bills ok'd in special session*"; October 11, MAIL TRIUNE, "*All eyes on us*")

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There's No Excuse for Lying

It would be wonderful if you would attend an **educational GMO film night on Wednesday October 23 at 7 p.m.** at the downtown Medford Library. Bring your family and friends back the following week as well, to hear *Dr. Ray Seidler* give a live talk on the biological and economic *risks* with GMO crops. His presentation is at the *Medford Library* a week later on **Wednesday, October 30, at 7 p.m.** **Dr. Seidler is responsible for having written the "Biosafety plan" for the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA).** GMO's have spread with unprecedented speed over the last two decades. You might notice it's time to look at GMO agrochemical exploitation practices as a dysfunctional food system with state-wide biosafety considerations. You might dream of new ways to inform your faith communities, schools, and society groups that the FALLACIOUS BENEFICIAL CLAIMS MADE BY THE AGROCHEMICAL BIOTECH INDUSTRY LOBBY ARE DISTORTIONS. THE DRAWBACK RESULTS SPEAK LOUDER THAN THEORIES.

In 1999 the American people got the *Better Business Bureau* to request the NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE's lobby **stop calling nuclear energy "Environmentally clean" and stop neglecting to disclose that the production of nuclear fuel is causative of air pollution and nuclear waste.** Today the American people are just as upset with the propaganda lies of the BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY ORGANIZATION lobby that represents the GMO agrochemical cartel. You may ask what steps are taken by U.S. government regulatory agencies to forbid *fallacious claims* by lobbyists.

The problem with Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) crops is that their pollen drifts onto organic farms, eliminating their "*USDA Certified Organic*" status. Organic agriculture is NOT dependent upon things that run out, so it is more stable than GMO crops. Organically grown helps protect birds, insects, wildlife, waterways, workers, and consumers from toxic herbicides and pesticides. All biodynamic, conventional, heirloom, organic, and native plants need traditional safeguarding by banning the GMO hazards from destroying local, sustainable agriculture in JACKSON COUNTY. Therefore it makes common sense, and is a modest idea, for left and right to unite on passage of **Measure 15-119.** A "Yes" vote tells policymakers that JACKSON COUNTY's local functional food system is worth protecting.

Failure of the measure to pass would be tragic for JACKSON COUNTY because a "No" vote allows "*agrochemical*", "*industrial*" agricultural practices to swoop in with patents on seeds and mandated use of highly toxic biocide applications and increased chemical spraying. The American people would see coming into your neighborhoods a dysfunctional food system that depletes the soil and attracts superbugs and superweeds resistant to *Roundup Ready*. The "*next*" generation of bio-poisons include DICAMBA and DOW 2,4D, the main ingredient in AGENT ORANGE. Most agrochemical economic development is focused on monocrop ethanol plants, which do nothing but put industrial farming on steroids with farmers getting trapped in the subsidy treadmill.

The SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ordered MONSANTO to stop advertising GMO's as "Safe". Their government ruled that the claim is "*Unsubstantiated*". Synonyms are "*Unconfirmed*" and "*Unsupported*". The claim has no backing behind it. Sooner or later you might notice the feelings of honesty in your heart as you have to redefine risk. GMO's have come up against strong social and legal resistance in over 60 nations.

Out of FRANCE came the finding that GMO's slowly destroy the kidneys and livers of human beings. You may try to resist what should be done to protect the American people, but sooner or later a person could eat with a new outlook that unlabelled GMO food on American dinner plates is unexamined and untested. How does it feel to have been denied your informed consent. Lobbying dollars get concentrated to pressure lawmakers, but the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA gives the American people the right for redress of grievances.

(Sources: ACRES U.S.A. "*The Voice of Eco-Agriculture*" Special Edition; October 17, OREGON LEGAL JOURNAL, "*GMO's in agriculture to be Corvallis Science Pub topic*", Press Release; March/April 1999 SIERRA magazine's MYTHBUSTER article, "*Not Clean Enough*")

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Oregon Is Having An Earthquake Drill

The HUMBOLDT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT is built on shaky ground and is only miles away from the coastal city of Arcata, CALIFORNIA. In order to help prevent an environmental disaster, the *Northcoast Environmental Center* has worked hard to keep it shut for the past 40-years.

Seismic preparedness is needed because the entire PACIFIC is a volcanic *ring of fire*. The state of OREGON will start to implement a 50-year *Resiliency Plan* next year in October 2014 because the state has twice as many earthquakes as in any of the other U.S. states, and the coast is at risk of both distant and local tsunamis.

If you are vacationing anywhere in the world and you are on a beach, if the water goes way out, evacuate the beach fast. It means a tsunamis wave will come back in and you could be under water within 15-minutes. Remembering this could save your life. Immediately get up to higher ground.

Another thing that could save your life is to sleep at night with a small backpack by your bed. Keep in it a flashlight, leather gloves, and sturdy shoes that are comfortable. Have a three-day resiliency supply of water and food at home and in your car. Then increase your resiliency to a three-week supply.

For more information and to register on-line for the October 17 practice earthquake drill, go to www.shakeout.org/oregonearthquake. The drill is to practice *drop, cover, and hold on* to something. If there is no strong table to take cover under, drop next to an interior wall and cover the back of your neck.

What the researchers have learned so far is that the *Cascadia Subduction Zone* off our coast extends the full length from BRITISH COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON, OREGON, down to the CALIFORNIA border. Fifteen million people live in this hazard zone and there is a 37 percent chance of a mega 9.0 earthquake and tsunami between now and 2063.

To ask Althea Rizza to do a **Resiliency Plan** presentation, email her at althea.rizza@state.or.us. To check in with the Red Cross, go to www.safeandwell.org.

Create the Future

Your book group may already be reading and discussing THE WORLD PEACE DIET by author Dr. Will Tuttle. You might not have noticed Dr. Tuttle's online Training Program. It consists of a series of self-paced teleseminars: *The World Peace Diet Facilitator Training*, *The World Peace Diet Mastery Program*, and *The World Peace Diet Circle*. To register, go to www.WorldPeaceMastery.com.

If you feel called to help create a *Wonderful World Tomorrow* for your grandchildren, Dr. Tuttle's *Training Program* may interest you. Also available for your enjoyment are www.WillTuttle.com, and www.RawVeganRadio.com.

Peace Be With You

The UNITED NATIONS "One Day of World Peace" occurs every year on September 21 and last month people around the world paused for a moment of silence at noon in all the global time zones. In Ashland, OREGON, *Peace House* hosted a meal and invited a number of community co-sponsors who participated. To learn more about *Peace House* events go to www.PeaceHouse.net.

A CHEROKEE ELDER and story-teller, *Willie Whitefeather*, had given me a copy of the HOPI INDIAN TRIBES letter addressing the **International Day of Peace**. He asked me to share it with readers. I beg your indulgence. I hope I got the spellings right because the old photocopy of the original letter was a bit worn in places. It was written in 1982. What happens when you just decide to honor the peaceful request.

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UNITED SOVEREIGN HOPI NATIONS

HOTEVILLA*MISHONGNOVI*MOENKOPI*ORAIBI*SHIPAULOVI*SHUNGOPAVI* HOPILAND, VIA ARIZONA

His Excellency,
The President of the General Assembly
The United Nations
New York, New York 10017

20 September 1982

Dear Mr. President,

We, the undersigned Hopi traditional initiated members of our highest religious orders, Kachina and Wuwuchina, representing our respective Sovereign Hopi Nations, take this opportunity to address the General Assembly on the occasion of the International Day of Peace.

To us this is a fulfillment of one of the Hopi Prophecies that some day, when world problems become so great, world leaders will gather together in a "House of Mica" (United Nations) to solve these problems in a peaceful way—not with war.

At the time of the emergence of our forefathers to this new land and life, the Great Spirit, Maszu'u, gave our first people the name Hopi, which means Peace. Hopi people have been committed to peace since the beginning of human life on this Mother Earth. It is for this reason that our spiritual Kikmongwis did not make a treaty with any nation, but only with the Great Spirit, Massu'u, who directed our leaders to reside in this desert, now known as the Southwest in this country. In accordance with spiritual instructions our ancestors established sacred shrines on top of our mountains. From within this spiritual center, surrounded by these four sacred mountains, our religious leaders serve as caretakers of all land and life in the western hemisphere. By carrying on their ceremonies, fasting, smoking of sacred pipes, and making prayer feathers, on behalf of all living things on this Mother Earth, our religious leaders strive to keep this whole world in balance. Therefore this spiritual center must be protected by all people at this time.

Hopi and all Original Native Peoples have lived on this land for many thousands of years, and the teachings that have been passed on from generation to generation among our people contain prophecies, warnings, and religious instructions that are of great significance for everyone. These teachings serve as instructions for what we must do at this critical moment which the modern world now faces.

Modern man's innovations and behavior were known by our people thousands of years before their existence, such as paved roads, airplanes, automobiles, telephones, radios, satellites, space travel, test-tube babies, world wars, etc., to name a few. All these things were made in another world but were misused by human beings and are bringing about a total destruction of our world. Today, these highly developed inventions are like smoke signals or warnings to all people on earth. If human beings start to misuse these modern inventions, the world will head toward self-destruction, as it has happened before.

One of the most significant events of which we were warned was the invention of a "gourd full of ashes," known today as the atomic bomb. These weapons were to be so powerful that they would destroy all living things and cause the oceans to boil. The world already witnessed the unfortunate use of the atomic bomb during World War II when Hiroshima and Nagasaki were obliterated. Our spiritual leaders were alarmed when this invention actually materialized, burning everything to ashes in a few seconds!

The Hopi Elders, knowing their prophecies and now fully realizing that the whole world was in danger, held a four day meeting in Shungopavi in 1948 where each spiritual leader was required to review their ancient traditional knowledge of things to come in the future, and to warn all nations never again to use this terrible instrument of fire and death. We are now in a race against time, since modern man has severely upset the balance of the natural life of human beings and nature. We know that a Third World War is possible, as well as the increase of natural disasters, and the appearance of new diseases that cannot be easily cured. Hopi remember two worlds that existed before this one, each destroyed because the balance of nature was upset by man.

Today we find corruption and greed linked with extremely powerful technological developments involving precious minerals under Hopi lands. Grave effects will result from tampering with the natural elements in the sacred spiritual center which is located in what is now known as the Four Corners Area in the southwestern part of our homeland. If this is kept in a natural order this area will be a refuge for all survivors when something happens in the future outside of this sacred area. Already we see an increase in natural disasters occurring the world over: earthquakes, droughts, heatwaves, hurricanes, tidal waves, landslides, floods, volcanic eruptions, diseases, and destructive lightning. These are ways in which nature is crying out to mankind against the abuse Mother Earth is receiving from her children. If mankind persists, they may bring destruction to all forms of life on earth.

Through inherent laws this earth belongs to Massu'u, the Great Spirit, and we, the Original Native People, are all caretakers of this land for Him. Our sacred religious instructions bar us from going to other lands to destroy other life and property. We were warned by our forefathers never to send any destructive instruments of war to other lands, and if we do, we invite greater punishment for ourselves in the future. Therefore, no Hopi or Original Native People of this western hemisphere must be forced into war by any nation. All human beings are part of this nature; therefore, we are all responsible in our own ways to work for the continuation of all life.

Mineral resources under the earth are being wasted more rapidly than ever before, in pursuit of military power. Vast heaps of radioactive uranium waste are causing serious contamination of water on our homeland and have led to sickness, deaths, and the birth of deformed babies. With this, and the stripmining of coal in our own area, we witness the greatest sacrilege toward our Mother Earth, in direct violation of our religious rights. All of this is in the interest of the arms race.

Hopi people stand on spiritual and natural laws; therefore, they choose to live the peaceful way. We will never show our bows and arrows to anyone, for all human beings are our relations and the Great Spirit is watching all nations on this Mother Earth.

Faced with this prospect, we must rid ourselves of the terrible curse of personal gain at the expense of others, which rules the materialistic path of life today. For if we do not cleanse ourselves of our own free will, a higher power will soon perform for us the work of purification.

In view of this, we take this opportunity to call to the attention of the United Nations the critical state of affairs of the peaceful people of the Sovereign Hopi Nations. No peace is possible so long as this condition exists on our homeland. If peace is threatened in one part of the land, it is not possible to maintain peace elsewhere in the world. We know from our teachings that the peaceful resolution of the violations against the First Inhabitants of this land is an essential step toward world peace.

We have been subjected, by the United States Government through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to an undemocratic and authoritarian Tribal Council, without the consent of the majority of the Hopi people, and being peaceful people, we have not resorted to violence in order to redress our legitimate grievances. Yet now the violations of our sovereign rights to our land, and the violations of our human rights, our religious rights, and our environmental rights, are overwhelming.

Our land and life is at stake! It is imperative that we assert our sovereign rights to self-determination. Toward this end, we are preparing petitions in the areas of these violations to address to the United Nations community. Although this is not the occasion for a complete discussion of our desperate situation, we feel strongly that you should be made aware of our stand.

While the world governments today are talking about world peace, many tragic events are taking place on the face of the world, and we, the Original Native People, feel like prisoners on our own homeland.

Therefore, we appeal to the United Nations to send a fact-finding mission to Hopiland to investigate these violations and to meet our high spiritual Kikmongwis and their Religious Leaders as soon as possible. They alone hold in their hands the Sacred Stone Tablet and Spiritual Instructions for the Great Spirit, Massu'u, for all people. They are anxious to meet with your official representatives in their communities.

This statement marks our fourth and perhaps final attempt to deliver our Hopi Message to the United Nations, in accordance with our prophetic spiritual instructions. The time has come for the doors of the "House of Mica" (United Nations) to open to the Hopi and other Native People. We are human beings and as first people on this continent have equal rights to live in peace in our homeland.

Knowing these ancient prophecies, warnings, and religious instructions, we call upon all good people everywhere to make every effort to return to the spiritual path from which we have strayed in order to bring about lasting peace, harmony, and eternal life. Let us not destroy this land and life! We must awaken before it is too late, and recognize the first law of life, spirituality, which governs all things.

Together, let us all sit down on the path of Peace and pray silently.

On behalf of the Sovereign Hopi Nations, we present you our statement on this day, of International Day of Peace.

(The letter had 17 lines of signatures filled in, including those at the top of their letterhead such as Hotevilla's, Shipaulavi's, Shungopavy's, and Mushongnovi's)

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